

REMARKS

The last Office Action of November 7, 2005 has been carefully considered. Reconsideration of the instant application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-4, 6 and 7 are pending in the application. No amendments have been made.

Claims 2-4, 6 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Giese, of record in view of Grell et al., of record and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,880,429 to Daniel.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's rejection of the claims for the following reason:

The Daniel reference has an effective filing date which is not before the filing date of the German patent application upon which priority is claimed pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). In order to perfect the claim of priority, applicant submits herewith a verified translation thereof. Accordingly, it is applicant's contention that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Giese in view of Grell et al. and in view of Daniel has now been overcome.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate conditions for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 5, 2006
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